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JUN 26 2008

PATENT

Docket: CU-5016

Application Serial No. 10/589,546  
Reply to Office Action of March 27, 2008

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In the Office Action dated March 27, 2008, the Examiner states that Claims 16-35 are pending, Claims 16-20, 23 and 24 are rejected or objected to and Claims 25-35 are allowed. By the present Amendment, Applicant amends the specification, the claims, and the drawings.

In the present Action, Claims 16, 17 to 20, 23 and 24 are rejected as being obvious over JP 10-007450 (reference 1) in view of JP 40-026525 (reference 2). In response, Applicant first notes that Claim 16 is amended as indicated above to clarify that the corundum crystal is formed directly on the platinum base material. Applicant submits that pending Claims 16-20, 23 and 24 are not obvious, at least for the following reason:

Reference 1 discloses a jewel-embedded pottery comprising: a reflecting layer of gold, mica or platinum formed in an attaching hole formed on the surface of a pottery, and a jewel attached on the reflecting layer. Reference 1 does not disclose to use a corundum which is crystal grown.

Reference 2 discloses a hydrothermal synthesis method of a gigantic crystal colored corundum monocrystal, wherein the shape of the crystal and a hue thereof are adjusted as desired. The Examiner states that it is obvious for a person skilled in the art to use a colored corundum crystal for a jewel taught in reference 1 because reference 2 teaches a colored corundum monocrystal.

Claim 16 of the present invention recites a corundum crystal formed body comprising a platinum base material and a corundum crystal portion formed on the platinum base material, in which the corundum crystal is, indeed, formed on the platinum base material. However, in the present invention, a corundum crystal is allowed to grow directly on a platinum base material. Thereby, unlike a corundum crystal attached onto a platinum base material, the present invention has an advantage that the corundum crystal has strong adhesion to the platinum base material and can be used for various applications. Although reference 1 discloses a jewel-embedded pottery wherein a jewel is attached to a platinum reflecting layer, a jewel is not attached directly on the platinum in this pottery. A transparent adhesive is normally placed on the platinum and a jewel is attached to this transparent adhesive so that it is possible to embed a jewel into a pottery while keeping brightness of the jewel. Accordingly, unlike the present invention, adhesion between

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the platinum base material and the corundum crystal cannot be enhanced in reference 1. Further, reference 1 does not teach or disclose forming a jewel directly on platinum, but rather is completely silent on the matter.

As explained, the corundum crystal formed body of the present invention does not comprise a transparent adhesive on the platinum, and has a difference in its technical structure that the corundum crystal is formed directly on the platinum base material. The unique advantageous effect of the present invention can be attained by forming the corundum crystal directly on the platinum base material.

Therefore, the present invention cannot be obvious by simply combining the reference 1 where a transparent adhesive exists between the platinum and the jewel and reference 2 which discloses a corundum crystal formed by a hydrothermal synthesis method, wherein the shape of the crystal and a hue thereof are adjusted as desired.

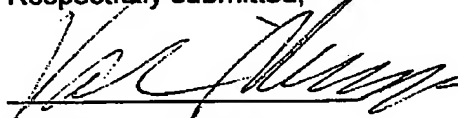
At least for the forgoing reasons, Applicant submits that Claims 16-20, 23 and 24 are not obvious in view of reference 1 and reference 2, and requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection therefore.

In light of the foregoing discussion, all the outstanding objections and rejections are considered overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this application should now be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

June 26, 2008

Date

Respectfully submitted,



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